

Attorney Docket No. 018360-254508

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/647,062

Confirmation No. _____

Applicant : **Zhong, et al.**

Filed : **August 22, 2003**

Title : **CORE AREA TERRITORY PLANNING
FOR OPTIMIZING DRIVER FAMILIARITY
AND ROUTE FLEXIBILITY**

Art Unit : _____

Examiner : _____

Docket No. : **018360-254508**

Customer No. : **00826**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
CITATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), which governs disclosures made before a first Office Action. Attached is a list of documents on form PTO-1449 together with a copy of each identified document.

It is requested that the Examiner consider these documents and officially make them of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the MPEP. By submitting the listed documents, Applicant in no way makes any admission as to the prior art status of the listed documents, but is instead submitting the listed documents for the sake of full disclosure.

Respectfully submitted,

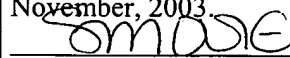

J. Scott Anderson

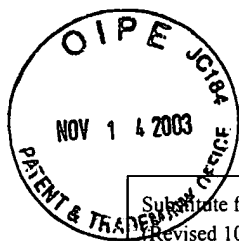
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this, the 10th day of November, 2003.


Shana Moore



Submit date for form 1449A/PTO (Revised 10/2001) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
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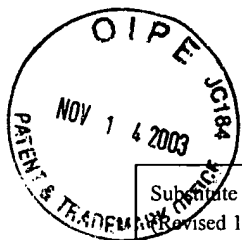
U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number - Kind Code	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee of Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages of Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
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OTHER PRIOR ART: NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T?
	20	SOLOMON, F.; "Algorithms for the Vehicle Routing and Scheduling Problems With Time Window Constraints;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; March-April 1987, pp. 254-65, Vol. 35, No. 2; Operations Research Society of America.	N/A
	21	GENDREAU, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Tabu Search Heuristic for the Vehicle Routing Problem With Stochastic Demands and Customers;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; May-June 1996; pp. 469-77, Vol. 44, No. 3; Informs.	N/A
	22	HALL, R., <i>et al.</i> ; "Use of Continuous Approximations within Discrete Algorithms for Routing Vehicles: Experimental Results and Interpretation;" NETWORKS; 1994; pp. 43-56, Vol. 24; John Wiley & Sons, Inc.	N/A

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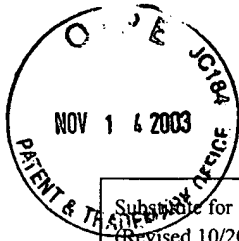


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	23	LAGUNA, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "Tabu Search for the Multilevel Generalized Assignment Problem;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1995; pp. 176-89; Vol. 82; Elsevier Science B.V.	N/A
	24	RUSSELL, R.; "Hybrid Heuristics for the Vehicle Routing Problem with Time Windows;" TRANSPORTATION SCIENCE; May 1995; pp. 156-66, Vol. 29, No.2; Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.	N/A
	25	LAPORTE, G.; "The Vehicle Routing Problem: An Overview of Exact and Approximate Algorithms;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1992; pp. 345-58; Vol. 59; Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.	N/A
	26	KALL, P.; "Stochastic Programming;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1982; pp. 125-30; Vol. 10; North-Holland Publishing Company.	N/A
	27	POTVIN, J., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Parallel Route Building Algorithm for the Vehicle Routing and Scheduling Problem with Time Windows;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1993; pp. 331-40; Vol. 66; Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.	N/A
	28	STEWART, Jr., W., <i>et al.</i> ; "Stochastic Vehicle Routing: A Comprehensive Approach;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1983; pp. 371-85; Vol. 14; Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.	N/A
	29	DROR, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "Vehicle Routing With Stochastic Demands: Properties and Solution Frameworks;" TRANSPORTATION SCIENCE; August 1989; pp. 166-76, Vol. 23, No. 3; Operations Research Society of America.	N/A
	30	LAPORTE, G., <i>et al.</i> ; "Models and Exact Solutions for a Class of Stochastic Location-Routing Problems;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; February 1988; pp. 71-78; Vol. 39; Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.	N/A
	31	BERTSIMAS, D., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Stochastic and Dynamic Vehicle Routing Problem in the Euclidean Plane;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; July-August 1991; pp. 601-15, Vol. 39, No. 4; Operations Research Society of America.	N/A
	32	HALL, R.; "Graphical Interpretation of the Transportation Problem;" TRANSPORTATION SCIENCE; February 1989; pp. 37-45, Vol. 23, No. 1; Operations Research Society of America.	N/A

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	33	BERTSIMAS, D., <i>et al.</i> ; "Computational Approaches to Stochastic Vehicle Routing Problems;" TRANSPORTATION SCIENCE; November 1995; pp. 342-52, Vol. 29, No. 4; Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.	N/A
	34	GENDREAU, M. <i>et al.</i> ; "Invited Review: Stochastic Vehicle Routing;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1996; pp. 3-12; Vol. 88; Elsevier Science B.V.	N/A
	35	BERTSIMAS, D.; "A Vehicle Routing Problem With Stochastic Demand;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; May-June 1992; pp. 574-85, Vol. 40, No. 3; Operations Research Society of America.	N/A
	36	SAVELSBERGH, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Comparison of the Efficiency of Fixed Versus Variable Vehicle Routes;" JOURNAL OF BUSINESS LOGISTICS; 1995; pp. 163-87, Vol. 16, No. 1.	N/A
	37	BEASLEY, J., <i>et al.</i> ; "Vehicle Routing With a Sparse Feasibility Graph;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1997; pp. 499-511; Vol. 98; Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.	N/A
	38	WONG, K., <i>et al.</i> ; "Vehicle Routing Using Fixed Delivery Areas;" OMEGA INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF MANAGEMENT SCIENCE; 1984; pp. 591-600, Vol. 12 No. 6; Pergamon Press Ltd.	N/A
	39	HALL, R.; "Design for Local Area Freight Networks;" TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH - B; 1993; pp. 79-81, Vol. 27B No. 2; Pergamon Press Ltd.	N/A
	40	HALL, R., <i>et al.</i> ; "On the Road to Efficiency;" OR/MS TODAY; June 1997; pp. 38-47.	N/A
	41	HALL, R.; "Pickup and Delivery Systems for Overnight Carriers;" TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH - A; 1996; pp. 173-87, Vol. 30, No. 3; Elsevier Science Ltd.	N/A
	42	KAMOUN, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "Design of Express Mail Services for Metropolitan Regions;" JOURNAL OF BUSINESS LOGISTICS; 1996; pp. 265-302, Vol. 17, No. 2.	N/A
	43	DROR, M.; "Modeling Vehicle Routing with Uncertain Demands as a Stochastic Program: Properties of the Corresponding Solution;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1993; pp. 432-41; Vol. 64; Elsevier Science Publishers B.V.	N/A

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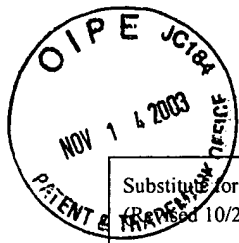


Transmittal form 1449A/PTO (Revised 10/2001) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
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	44	WATERS, C.; "Vehicle-Scheduling Problems with Uncertainty and Omitted Customers;" JOURNAL OF THE OPERATIONAL RESEARCH SOCIETY; 1989; pp. 1099-1108, Vol. 40, No. 12; Operational Research Society Ltd.	N/A
	45	GENDREAU, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "An Exact Algorithm for the Vehicle Routing Problem with Stochastic Demands and Customers;" TRANSPORTATION SCIENCE; May 1995; pp. 143-55, Vol. 29, No. 2; Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.	N/A
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	47	LORENA, L.; <i>et al.</i> ; "Relaxation Heuristics for a Generalized Assignment Problem;" EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF OPERATIONAL RESEARCH; 1996; pp. 600-10; Vol. 91; Elsevier Science B.V.	N/A
	48	ROSS, G., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Branch and Bound Algorithm for the Generalized Assignment Problem;" MATHEMATICAL PROGRAMMING; 1975; pp. 91-103; Vol. 8; North-Holland Publishing Company.	N/A
	49	BENTON, W., <i>et al.</i> ; "The Vehicle Scheduling Problem with Intermittent Customer Demands;" COMPUTERS & OPERATIONS RESEARCH; pp. 521-31, Vol. 19, No. 6; Pergamon Press Ltd.	N/A
	50	HANCOCK, W., <i>et al.</i> ; "Planning, Design and Control: The Learning Curve;" HANDBOOK OF INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING, 1992; Chapter 61; pp. 1585-98; 2nd Ed; Salvendy, G. (ed.); John Wiley & Sons.	N/A
	51	YELLE, L.; "The Learning Curve: Historical Review and Comprehensive Survey;" DECISION SCIENCES; 1979; pp. 302-28; Vol. 10.	N/A
	52	JABER, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Comparative Study of Learning Curves with Forgetting;" APPLIED MATHEMATICAL MODELLING; August 1997; pp. 523-31; Elsevier Science Ltd.	N/A
	53	DROR, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Generalized Traveling Salesman Problem Approach to the Directed Clustered Rural Postman Problem;" TRANSPORTATION SCIENCE; pp. 187-92; Vol. 31, No. 2.	N/A

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	54	BERTSIMAS, D., <i>et al.</i> ; "Stochastic and Dynamic Vehicle Routing in the Euclidean Plane with Multiple Capacitated Vehicles;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; January-February 1993; pp. 60-76, Vol. 41, No. 1; Operations Research Society of America.	N/A
	55	GOLDEN, B., <i>et al.</i> ; "Approximate Traveling Salesman Algorithms;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; May-June 1980; pp. 694-712, Vol. 28, No. 3, Part II; Operations Research Society of America.	N/A
	56	BERTSIMAS, D., <i>et al.</i> ; "A New Generation of Vehicle Routing Research: Robust Algorithms, Addressing Uncertainty;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; March-April 1996; pp. 286-303, Vol. 44, No. 2; <i>Inform.</i>	N/A
	57	FISHER, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "A Multiplier Adjustment Method for the Generalized Assignment Problem;" MANAGEMENT SCIENCE; September 1986; pp. 1095-1103, Vol. 32, No. 9; The Institute of Management Sciences.	N/A
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	60	SAVELSBERGH, M., <i>et al.</i> ; "Drive: Dynamic Routing of Independent Vehicles;" OPERATIONS RESEARCH; July-August 1998; pp. 474-90, Vol. 46, No. 4; <i>Inform.</i>	N/A
	61	FISHER, M.; "The Lagrangian Relaxation Method for Solving Integer Programming Problems;" MANAGEMENT SCIENCE; January 1981; pp. 1-18, Vol. 27, No. 1; The Institute of Management Sciences.	N/A

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